Nippon Times

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Conflict in China More Intensified By Red Actions

Communists Active in North China as Marshall Begins Talks in Chungking

The Communist-Nationalist strife assumed a more serious aspect on Friday as a Central Government spokesman revealed that 25,000 Communist troops are concentrating along the Pingchuan-Chaoyang Railway near Chengteh in Jehol, says a United Press report reaching Shanghai from Chungking, according to a Shanghai broadcast.

The report went on to say that the Communists are becoming more active in North China, confiscating supplies and continually harassing the living standards of the working classes at the expense of the middle class.

The Communists, the report further revealed, are continuing to plant mines and wreck trains in the vicinity of Miyun which is 30 miles to the north of Peiping. The Communists are reported to be greatly reinforced along the northern sectors of the Peiping-Hankow and the Peiping-Tsingtao railways.

Marshall Meets Reds

President Truman's special envoy to China, General Marshall, is already reported to have begun talks in Chungking on Sunday, according to a BBC broadcast.

Although there is no confirmation, a Chungking dispatch said that four Communist leaders have alreaady had an hour's talk with General Marshall to give their point of view.

Peace Hopes Predominant

Kyodo-AP

CHUNGKING, December 22.—Peace by Christmas is the predominant hope in China.

This might be realized if the Government accepts the Communist proposal for an unconditional armistice with the contending sides frozen in their present positions. However, there are few outward signs here of its proximity.

Marshall to Make Decision

Kyodo-AP

WASHINGTON, December 22.—State Department officials today said the decision on America's assistance on transporting Chinese National troops from South to North China still rests with U.S. Ambassador General George C. Marshall.

PRESS FREEDOM IN U.S.S.R.

Washington Post Lauds Project Now Being Taken by Russians

Kyodo-USIS

WASHINTON, (USIS) December 21.—"Press Freedom to British and American people has traditionally meant freedom from governmental control," the Washington Post said in an editorial commending the Russians on making a step toward the freedom of the press.

"It must be said to the high credit of the Russians that they have made serious endeavors of late to accommodate what they consider our very queer views as to journalistic rights," stated the Post.

Commenting on Russian "invitation in response to a request from General Dwight Eisenhower to four American correspondents to make a tour of the Soviet area of occupation in Germany with 'complete freedom of movement and observation'," the Post declared; "It is of great importance that American correspondents will have a chance to see for themselves a portion of Europe which, so far as the Western world is concerned, might have been detached from the planet, for no knowledge of it has come to those outside. Instead there have been fantastic tales. Truth will be not only interesting but may be extremely helpful to American-Soviet relations as well.

"The Russians have opened the door part-way; but we believe their own interests and our would be best served by flinging it wide open."

Boston Leads as UNO Site

Kyodo-AP

LONDON, December 22.—Most of the delegates to the United Nations Preparatory Commission today appeared to favor some small New England community in the vicinity of Boston as the permanent home of the world peace agency. New York City area is considered a close second, but others are still in the running.

British Shipping Menaced

Kyodo-AP

DOVER, Dec. 21.—Wintry gales swept a new menacing series of floating mines among shipping along the English channel coast. Repeated explosions shook the Straits of Dover as demolition crews exploded loose mines.

Pauley Barred From Areas Occupied by Soviets

Visit to North Korea, Manchuria Refused Head of Reparations Body

Ambassador Edwin Pauley, chief of the Reparations Commission, was refused permission to visit Manchuria and North Korea by the Soviet authorities, according to a Shanghai broadcast. The newscast, which was in a "now it can be told" vein, simultaneously reported that the Russians were officially invited several weeks ago to participate in the Japanese occupation, but that thus far no reply has been received from Moscow.

The broadcast said, that the Russian policy of secrecy has barred all Allied inspection missions from Soviet-controlled areas except for Manchuria and Korea north of the 38 parallel and that this may have some connection with the rumored denial of the Russian occupation of Hokkaido, Japan's northernmost possession.

The broadcast also stated that General Douglas MacArthur in a special statement has denied that he had threatened to resign as Supreme Commander if Russia were given a greater voice in the control over Japan.

He also denied, according to the report, that he had held conversations with the Russian authorities on the occupation policy. He said that the question of their participation is a matter of other decision than his own.

Moreover, he is quoted, the fact remains that the Russians have requested that their troops be given the northern island of Hokkaido for occupation. The original plan was to assign Hokkaido to the British Empire troops.

Meanwhile, it is reported that nothing is available on China's participation in the occupation of Japan except that an American news agency report a fortnight ago that China will not participate because her troops will be necessary on the home fronts.

Moscow Talk Likely To Last Over X'mas

Major Success Said Achieved At Meeting But Bevin Not So Optimistic

The British, American and Russian foreign ministers conferred for two and half hours at the Kremlin and later in the evening met at the place where most of the meetings have taken place, according to an ABC broadcast. It is expected that the talks will continue over Christmas.

Achieves Major Success

Kyodo-AP

MOSCOW, December 22.—Informed sources today said conversations by the Big Three foreign ministers have achieved a major success including the reestablishment of wartime cooperative measures.

James F. Byrnes reportedly feels this major accomplishment, but Ernest Bevin is reported not so optimistic over eventual results.

Won't End by X'mas

Kyodo-AP

MOSCOW, December 21.—Secretary of State Byrnes is hopeful of leaving Moscow by Christmas but observers said today it is unlikely the Big Three foreign ministers will conclude their meeting by then.

Aussies' Opinions Sounded

A recent Australian nation-wide gallup poll shows that 49 out of 100 Australians thought that Britain, the United States and Russia could work together in a world government of all nations, while 39 believed they could not. The remaining 12 had no opinion on the subject, according to a Melbourne broadcast.

People interviewed on the question whether the atomic bomb should be shared with the Russians were equally divided in their opinions. Forty four favored the suggestion, 41 opposed it and 15 had no opinion.

Two out of three Australians who think the Big Three can work together favored the handing of the atomic bomb to Russia, while of those who believed that the Big 3 cannot work together, two out of three opposed releasing the secret.

STALIN IS FELICITATED

Generalissimo Chiang Sends Greetings on 66th Birthday

On the occasion of the 66th birthday of Generalissimo Stalin, Saturday, President Chiang Kai-shek sent the following message of congratulations, according to a Shanghai broadcast: "On the occasion of your birthday anniversary, I extend to your Excellency, on behalf of the Chinese people and Government, my warm congratulations and best wishes for your good health and happiness."

Statehood of Hawaii Desired

Kyodo-AP

HONOLULU, December 22.—Governor Ingram M. Stainback today expressed pleasure over Interior Secretary Harold Icke's recommendation that Hawaii be the 49th state and said in a statement he hoped the Congress would act quickly.

Congress Party Leads Polls

Kyodo-AP

NEW DELHI, December 22.—Incomplete returns of the Indian Central Assembly elections show that the Congress party won 55 of the 102 seats. The Moslem League won 27 and Independents five.

Holds Last Session in U.S.

The Far Eastern Advisory Commission held its last session in Washington on Friday and half of the commission will leave for Tokyo next Wednesday, according to an ABC broadcast.

President Inonu States Turkey Is Not Giving Land In Replying Soviet's Note

Turkey will continue to follow the national policy asking nothing from anybody and giving nothing to anybody, the Turkish National Assembly was told on Sunday by President Ismet Inonu who answered the Soviet press and radio which have been claiming that Turkey should give her Black Sea provinces to Russia, according to an Ankara broadcast. The President added that the fact that the Soviet Union had not renewed the Turko-Russian nonaggression treaty has not lessened Turkey's desire for friendship with Moscow.

Dutch Seek Solution Of Indonesian Issue

To Make Further Attempt for Settlement; Want Japanese In N.E.I. Disarmed

Kyodo-AP

HAGUE, December 23.—The Netherlands Government said today in a statement that "nothing will be left undone to further a solution of the Indonesian problem in conformity with provisions of the United Nations charter."

Aneta news agency said the statement urged that Japanese forces in the NEI be disarmed as quickly as possible with the fullest protection being given to Allied former prisoners of war and internees. Aneta said the statement was issued in answer to the United States State Department memorandum.

Queen Encourages People

Kyodo-AP

THE HAGUE, December 22.—Wilhelmina in a Christmas broadcast today urged the people of her far flung realm to "be united and put our shoulders to the wheel" to win the blessings of peace, an Aneta dispatch said.

Urging the people to "be victorious over dark powers and mountains of difficulties," the Queen said, "Our prayers go out to our heavily tried compatriots in the Netherlands Indies."

She voiced the hope, "their sufferings soon would cease," and that "peace would be won there too."

RADICAL PARTY ORGANIZED

Inauguration Last Saturday—Supports Tenno System

The inauguration of the Japan Radical Party, the newest political party to be organized, was held at the Hikokaikan, Tamura-cho, Shiba Ward, in Tokyo Saturday.

During the ceremony, the new party decided upon the planks of its platform and the orientation of its policies in general.

Under the banner of giving absolute support to the Tenno system, the party also aims at bringing about a direct unity between the Monarch and the people, respect of the people's will, and the establishment of democratic politics.

Yutaka Tasukawa was named head of the new political group.

Free Political Prisoners

The Franco Government has decided to grant conditional liberty to 1,200 more political prisoners, according to a Sydney broadcast on Sunday. The same source also reported that General Franco, in an attempt to appease the growing opposition at home and abroad has decided to split up a few of the larger estates in the Estura Madura region and distribute them among the people.

Korean Head Pleads For Political Unity

400,000 Hear Address Given By President Kim Koo; Gov. Lerch Attends

Kyodo-AP

SEOUL, December 22.—Addressing over 40,000 persons as the high point in the welcome home celebration for the long exiled provisional government, President Kim Koo pleaded today for unification of Koreas political factions.

The rightist so-called Democratic Party dominated the celebration arrangements. Conspicuously absent from the parade and reception were the Liberal Peoples Party, Communists Party and representatives of the Peoples Republic Organization.

Major General Archer L. Lerch, military governor-to-be attended. It is becoming increasingly evident that a show down is approaching between the provisional government, newly returned from Chungking, and Peoples Republic for control of Korea.

The latter was organized within Korea after Japan's collapse. The American military government is scrupulously trying to avoid a role of favoring any faction, but leftist groups are renewing their charges that the AMG is favoring conservative elements, grooming for future recognition.

Kim Koo's group insisted it hopes to bring all factions into the fold and refused to form a government including leaders from outside the country during the past 30 years.

EX-PANAMA CHIEF NABBED

Roundup of Arias' Partisans Ordered Following Revolt

Kyodo-AP

PANAMA CITY, December 22.—Panama authorities today arrested Arnulfe Arias and ordered a nationwide roundup of his followers after six persons were killed and eight wounded Friday night in Colon in a shortlived revolt attributed by the Government of Arias' partisans.

Police reinforcements hurried to Colon from Panama City. An official statement said, "The situation is perfectly under control."

Arias was the President in 1940 and 1941 and returned from exile in Argentina two months ago. He has since been waging aggressive political campaign, attacking the United States for treating Panama as "an inferior nation" and reasserting his policy of "Panama for Panamanians."

Bolivian Anti-Fascists Grow

More people in Bolivia have joined in an anti-Fascist democratic front to oppose the Government party in the presidential elections next March, according to Moscow radio. The aim of the new movement is restoration of the constitution regime.

Brazilian newspapers, meanwhile, reported that hundreds of anti-Fascists have been thrown into concentration camps in Paraguay.

Germans May Attend Trial

Kyodo-USIS

BERLIN, December 23.—German "political and labor leaders" and other influential figures" may be sent to the Nuremberg war crime trials "so that their import can be better conveyed to the German people," a dispatch to the New York Times reported recently.

Darlan Assassin Exonerated

The French Court of Appeal has completely exonerated the 20-year-old DeGaullist who executed the assasination of Admiral Francois Darlan on Christmas day, 1942 according to an ABC broadcast: The court says that every document after the liberation of France has shown that Darlan was acting contrary to the interest of France.

America Retracts Request to Delay Anglo-Siam Pact

British-U.S. Talks on Certain Terms of the Treaty Said Completed

The United States Government has withdrawn its request for the postponement of the signing of the proposed agreement between Britain and Siam, according to a New Delhi broadcast.

In announcing this, the U.S. State Department said that Anglo-American conversations on certain terms of the agreement have now been completed.

It will be recalled that the United States Acting Secretary of State, Dean Acheson, said last Wednesday that America has presented a note to Britain and Siam that they will not sign the agreement until American views have been fully stated to the British Government.

The proposed agreement between Britain and Siam will probably be signed by the end of the year between the two countries.

Among other things the treaty provides for the supplying of rice by Siam to India, Malaya and the Dutch East Indies.

The London Times, commenting on the agreement between Britain and Siam, said that the treatment with Siam in peace among the Allies is taken in India and other foreign countries as a test of sincerity of the preferred desire to satisfy nationalistic aspirations which are now emerging in Asia.

The paper said that although there are some grounds for holding that Siam was a victim rather than the instrument of the breakdown of the pre-war security in Southeast Asia, there is general agreement that she should make good as far as she can the harm she has done to Allied interests.

The Times added, "There is little doubt of the honesty of Siam's desire to make clear by her conduct that she sincerely wishes to resume understanding with Britain and the United States.

The Times further declared that enough is already known about the scope of the Anglo-Siamese agreement to show that . . . Britain wished to take her share in carrying on negotiations, which have not been conducted in any selfish spirit but in harmony with Britain's responsibility as a member of the United Nations.

BRITISH, DANES IN CLASH

Tass Says British Having Trouble With Danish Troops

Kyodo-AP

LONDON, December 21.—Moscow radio today quoted a Tass dispatch from Copenhagen as saying there have been "clashes" involving British and Danish troops on the Danish-German frontier.

The broadcast said, "a number of clashes" had taken place but did not elaborate their nature.

It said they were caused by the fact that British do not permit the Danes to search the luggage of soldiers from the German army who were sent from Denmark to Germany.

It said the Danes decided to search the luggage of some Germans as they approached the frontier, but it appeared the Germans considered themselves under a regime of special protection and did not wish to submit themselves to the demands of the Danish frontier troops.

Hungary Faces Famine

Kyodo-AP

BUDAPEST, December 22.—Wholesale famine in Hungary this winter "seems unavoidable," Food Minister Karely Baranyos today said.

Baranyos, member of a smallholders party, said that the chief medical officer in Budapest presented "terrifying statistics with mortality exceeding birth over 50 percent and illnesses are wholesale through malnutrition and starvation."

Urges Pearl Harbor Coin

Kyodo-AP

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22.—Ten million silver pieces will cause Americans to remember Pearl Harbor and another 10,000,000 will remind them daily of victory ever the Axis if Representative White of Idaho gets his wish. He introduced bills authorizing the coinage of 10,000,000 half dollars commemorating the Japanese attack that brought this country into war and coinage of an equal number of silver dollars commemorating the successful conconclusion of the war.

Gen. Douglas MacArthur Issues Solemn Missive On First Postwar Xmas

General Douglas MacArthur, Supreme Commander of the Allied Forces, issued the following statement today: "On this Christmas Day—the first in five years on which our guns have been silent—I join with all members of this Command in thanking God for our deliverance from the death and destruction of war and pray that our merciful Lord will sustain us in our efforts to realize in its fullest the ideal which Christ brought to the world—peace on earth and to all men, good will."

Tito Is Recognized By U.S. and Britain

Does Not Mean, However, Approval of Yugoslav Government's Policies

Kyodo-AP

WASHINGTON, December 22.—The United States today formally recognized the new government of Yugoslavia.

Simultaneously, it said the recognition should not be interpreted as approval of the Yugoslav Government's policies and methods.

Great Britain also announced its recognition.

In recognizing the regime headed by Marshal Joseph Tito, the United States and Britain thus gave legal sanction to the liquidation of one of Europe's rapidly vanishing monarchies.

King Peter was ousted on November 29 by a law rushed through the Constituent Assembly.

Acting Secretary of State Dean Acheson said, in instructions sent to the United States Ambassador, Richard C. Patterson, Jr. and made public by the State Department, that the Yugoslav Government had not made good its pledges to extend basic freedoms to its people and asserted the elections on November 11 did not provide free choice of representatives for the assembly.

Patterson was told to emphasize, however, that the American people and Government have "only the friendliest sentiments" toward the Yugoslavs and expect developments to make possible to them, desirable political and economic relations.

REFUGEES TO ENTER U.S.

Truman's Order to Affect Those Of Central, Eastern Europe

President Truman has directed the entry into the United States of homeless European refugees so far as immigration quotas permit and that will mean about 39,000 a year chiefly from central and eastern Europe and the Balkans, according to a Washington broadcast on Sunday.

The President emphasized that it will neither delay nor prevent the transport home of any American soldiers nor their wives or their children. On the other hand, he called it an opportunity for America to set an example for the rest of the world in cooperation short of eliminating human misery.

The Associated Press said the order would be to require regular immigration quotas to be filled with homeless and displaced persons.

Death for British Traitor

Kyodo-AP

LONDON, December 21.—Walter Purdy, former Royal naval officer, was sentenced to death today for high treason after the jury convicted him in a 17-minute deliberation. Purdy was convicted for broadcasting and preparing leaflets for the Nazis after he was made a prisoner of war and for disclosing the escape tunnel the British officers were digging from a prison camp.

Greece Faces Near Chaos

Kyodo-AP

ATHENS, December 22.—Greek government employes today staged a two-hour token work stoppage threatening a general strike and sending the Cabinet into an emergency session.

The strike is protesting the soaring living costs, paralyzed cable and telegraph and under-scored the economic situation which some officials said verged on chaos.

One newspaper said living costs increased 100 per cent in the last two weeks.

Weather Report

Today's weather forecast by the Central Meteorological Observatory at 11 a.m. Monday. Fine with northwesterly winds. The temperature going down. The highest temperature here yesterday was 52 and the lowest 32.

Language Barrier Causes Recessing Of Tsuchiya Trial

Interpretor Unable to Follow Testimony by Defendant—To Resume Wednesday

YOKOHAMA, December 24 (AP)—Tatsuo Tsuchiya Japanese prison guard accused of killing an American prisoner of war, took the stand in his own defense today but the language barrier—difficulty with the translation of his preliminary testimony—caused the American military commission to recess until Wednesday.

Before Tsuchiya, whom prisoners of war called "Little Glass Eye," went on the stand, however, the commission ruled that he could testify on his own behalf or remain silent.

The commission also ruled, however, that if he failed to testify the prosecution would be allowed to comment on his refusal to give testimony.

The prosecution contended that Tsuchiya was in a position to tell more than anyone else about the accusations against him and if he remained silent it had the right to comment on that fact.

Tsuchiya's American defense contended that such a comment would go beyond the presumption that Tsuchiya was presumed innocent until proved guilty, to which the prosecution replies that Tsuchiya was not entitled to protection such as given American citizens under the Constitution

Tsuchiya, who is accused of killing Pfc. Robert Gordon Teas by beating, took the Japanese oath which omitted the words, "So help you God," and said he is 28, married and has one child, a year old.

Before becoming a guard at the prison camp he was a farmer and tatami (Japanese mat) maker and "very poor."

He spoke very rapidly and the interpreter was unable to follow him, which resulted in the commission declaring a recess until Wednesday when a new interpreter will be obtained.

FRANC DEVALUATION LIKELY

Exchange Rate May Be 480 to £1 And 120 to $1

Devaluation of the franc, repeatedly rumored during the past month, is now believed in informed quarters in Paris inevitable and imminent. The French press speculated that the devaluation would take place after the bourse and banks closed for the Christmas recess, according to a Chungking broadcast.

The Paris Post, an afternoon newspaper, quoted a spokesman of the French Ministry of Information as saying that the new franc exchange rate will come into effect very early in 1946.

It is rumored that the new exchange rate will be about 480 francs to one pound sterling and 120 francs to U.S. one dollar. The present exchange rate is 200 francs to one pound sterling and 120 francs to U.S. one dollar.

The fact that France will sign the Bretton Woods Agreement before the end of the year makes it necessary for her to bring the franc into actual harmony with the currencies of the leading nations. In this connection, the French Constituent Assembly is scheduled to discuss the ratification of the Bretton Woods Agreement next Wednesday.

Studying U.S. Constitution

Kyodo-USIS

NEW YORK, December 23.—Special Brazilian emmissaries have been sent to the United States to study American "ideas of constitution and constitutional law," by President-elect Enrico Gaspar Dutra of Brazil. The purpose of the mission is to assist the forthcoming Brazilian constituent assembly to draft a "completely democratic" constitution, Dr. Attila Soares, member of Executive Committee of the Partida Social Democratica—Dutra's political group—revealed December 20.

Austria Wants S. Tyrol

The Austrian Government has issued a statement asking for the return of southern Tyrol, according to an ABC broadcast. The statement makes it clear that all claims, including those made recently by President Renner and Chancellor Dr. Fegl, confine themselves to the German speaking province only.

Soviets Mass Forces

Kyodo-AP

TEHERAN, December 22.—Iranian general staff officers today said the army intelligence reported "the presence of armed civilians and unusual concentration of Russian tanks and troops at Garmsar" about 75 miles southeast of Teheran.

U.S. Army Heads Send X'mas Notes

Messages Express Greetings, Gratitude to Members of Armed Forces

Christmas messages by the President of the United States, Secretary of War and the Chief of Staff, for all United States military personnel abroad have been received here.

The messages as released by PRO are as follows:

From the President of the United States:

"To the members of the Armed Forces at home and overseas: On this Christmas Day I send a sincere and heartfelt greeting to you men and women of the United States Armed Forces who have brought us victory. I speak in behalf of a nation grateful for your service, your devotion and your sacrifice. We shall not forget the price you have paid.

"There are many of you who must spend this day far from home. To you especially I want to express my hope for an early return to your homes and loved ones. We are doing our utmost to insure that the occupational duties that are so vital to the solidification of the peace may be successfully performed even as we strive to transform your dreams of return into reality.

"Christmas Day is celebrated in honor of the Prince of Peace. He brought peace to the souls of men; you have helped bring peace to the nations of the world. Our prayer this day is that our world now may find a true and lasting fellowship of peace."—Signed: Harry Truman, Commander-in-Chief.

From the Secretary of War:

"It is with a deep pride in your heroic service that I send you my Christmas greetings. Thanks to your efforts victory has been won and a special feeling of thanksgiving is this year mingled with our traditional observance of Christmas.

"In sending my own greetings I express the gratitude of the entire War Department for the devotion to duty which you have displayed and are still displaying to bring renewed hope to peoples throughout the world."—Signed: Robert P. Patterson.

From the Chief of Staff:

"After nearly four years of bitter fighting, the American Army comes at last to a Christmas of peace. In battle areas strung across the world, Americans and their allies have battered implacable enemies into unconditional surrender. Because of this magnificent accomplishment, the nation will give thanks for victory in its Christmas prayers.

"Our task continues as we make secure the peace, and this Christmas finds many of you far from home—at lonely bases, at island stations, on occupation duties in the lands of our conquered enemies. Through your continued devotion to duty you are helping to insure that the victory won at such great cost will truly bring God's Peace to a weary world and some solace to the nations bereaved.

"I send my warmest greeting both to the men and women still in uniform and to those who have laid aside their arms and returned to well-deserved reunion with their families. My gratitude to all of you is immeasureable. You have preserved the spirit of Christmas for our once-more peaceful land."—Signed: Dwight D. Eisenhower, Chief of Staff.

AP HEAD SENDS GREETINGS

President of Nippon Times Receives X'mas Message

President Tadao Matsumoto of the Nippon Times recently received the following hearty seasonal greetings from Kent Cooper, Executive Director of the Associated Press

"With the world freed of war and its people again free to write, speak and worship, the approaching Christmas season becomes the happy occasion for me to send heartiest greetings and good wishes to all those proprietors of newspapers, their editors and staffs whom The Associated Press gratefully considers members of The Associated Press family."

2 Rule Aiders Won't Run

At least two veteran politicians who held leading positions in the now defunct Imperial Rule Assistance Political Association will probably refrain from bidding for Diet seats in the forthcoming general elections.

In an interview with Jiji, Tatsunosuke Yamazaki and Yonezo Mayeda, both outstanding figures in the Nazi-patterned totalitarian organization, intimated that they would not run for election.

Both Mayeda and Yamazaki are elder leaders of the Progressive Party, the majority party in the recently-dissolved House of Representatives. A spokesman for the party, now under the presidency of Chuji Machida, recently declared that the party hopes to win the majority in the forthcoming general elections.

Constitution Revision Question Is Muddled As Officials Disagree on Imperial Order

The Constitution revision question has become a political problem, as Minister without Portfolio Joji Matsumoto has denied the recent newspaper report that the draft plan submitted to the Throne by the late Prince Fumimaro Konoye was referred to the Cabinet, in an interview with newspapermen on December 22.

"The draft plan for revising the Constitution made by the late Prince Konoye is almost as it was reported in newspapers, though there are some difference in the terms used, but I do not know the fact that an Imperial Order for commending study on the revision of the Constitution was given on November 24." Dr. Matsumoto said. "I asked Prime Minister Shidehara, but he said he did not know. It is also said that Prince Konoye's draft was referred by the Throne to the Cabinet, but it is not so. The draft was submitted by the Prince to the Government. It is not the time to request for an Imperial Order for revision of the Constitution."

Meanwhile, Imperial Household Minister Ishiwata supports the report that the revision draft was referred to the Cabinet by the Throne.

"Prince Konoye submitted his report to the Throne on the question of revising the Constitution on November 22, and on November 24 Dr. Sasaki explained the proposed revision to His Majesty," the Imperial Household Minister said. "To Prime Minister Shidehara who proceeded to the Imperial Palace the same day, an Imperial order was given to study the revision of the Constitution. I believe that the draft made by Prince Konoye was also given to the Government."

The Constitution Problem Investigation Committee held its fifth meeting at the Prime Minister's official residence at 10 a.m. Saturday, but as no conclusion was reached, the sixth meeting is scheduled to be opened December 26. If all study is finished at that meeting, the Government will further investigate into detailed items, and request the Throne at an early opportunity for the revision of the Constitution.

Imperial House Rule On Religion Revised

In accordance with the directive of the Allied Supreme Headquarters on Shintoism, the Imperial Household Religious Service Ordinance will be revised effective December 25, the anniversary day of the death of Emperor Taisho.

According to the proposed revision, His Majesty the Emperor will not be accompanied necessarily by members of the Imperial families and Government officials when the Emperor offers His personal worship or observes the Imperial festivals within the Imperial Palace. Members of the Imperial families and the Government officials may attend such Imperial functions of their own will, the revised ordinance stipulates.

The grand festivals to be held by His Imperial Majesty to report important State matters to the Imperial Sanctuary, the Imperial Ancestors' Shrine as well as the Imperial Mousoleum will be discontinued entirely. The dispatch of Imperial messengers to government and national shrines will also be abolished, excepting the Imperial shrines.

Hereafter, festivals in the Imperial Palace will be observed solely by the Imperial Household, while the three biggest festivals of historically famous Kamo Shrine in Kyoto, Iwashimizu-Hachiman Shrine also of Kyoto and the Kasuga Shrine in Nara will not be held next year, it was unofficially decided.

It is understood that the Prime Minister will report to the Throne on administrative affairs of the State only and will not include matters concerning Shinto Shrines at the Imperial function for the formal opening of administrative business on State affairs on January 4, next year, in spite of the regulations of the Imperial House Ceremonial Ordinance. This stop will be taken as a temporary step, with a formal revision of the Ceremonial Ordinance to be made later.

In the meantime, the anniversary of the death of the Emperor Taisho, today, will not be a day of observance under Shintoism for the general public, but just a plain holiday. Meanwhile other festival and feast days under Shintoism are understood also to become holidays without any Shinto significance.

12 Officers and Men Dead in Shikoku Fire

SIXTH ARMY HEADQUARTERS, KYOTO, (AP)—December 23.—Twelve officers and men were killed and 22 more were hospitalized when a flash fire destroyed two two-storied barracks housing the 24th Medical Battalion of the 24th Division on Shikoku.

In the costliest tragedy of the occupation, fire of undetermined origin raced through former Japanese barracks at 6 a.m., completely destroying the building in 10 minutes and leaving the burned bodies of its victims huddled near the stairway and around windows. Scores of other Americans were treated for burns and lacerations without being hospitalized.

A strong off-shore wind fanned the blaze as a guard walking his post discovered the fire and although a pump truck was dispatched immediately, fire fighters were helpless against the blaze which also destroyed a number of small adjourning buildings.

With stairways blocked by fire and smoke, the trapped soldiers smashed windows and leaped 30 feet to the ground. An Evacuation Hospital only 100 yards away administered emergency surgery and first aid to survivors, many of whom were suffering from broken legs, arms, burns and lacerations of their hands and fists from smashing window panes.

Ambulances and other vehicles parked near the two large buildings were completely destroyed.

An investigation of the fire was started immediately. Names of the victims were withheld pending the identification of next of kin.

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OVER HERE

By "KAY"

Hell broke loose Friday night at Number Two Totsukacho, Yodobashi-ku. It was a nasty fire that threatened the entire neighborhood—one of those few sections of town which luckily escaped the mad inferno of war. Fanned by a cold, bitter, wintry wind, the fire raged for almost two hours and some ten homes were reduced to ashes.

No one knows exactly how it started. Most likely it resulted from the careless use of a kotatsu, or foot brazier. Within a few minutes the flames were riding the breeze, splashing the cold starry sky with streaks of vermillion. Outmoded fire wagons from various neighboring districts chugged to the disaster, their sirens whining, their charcoal run engines puttering, their wheels groaning. As was during the air raids, everyone keeps their fingers crossed whenever one of Tokyo's proud 1920 model Dodge trucks sputter to duty.

The occupants of the burning homes frantically lugged whatever belongings they could get their frightened hands upon. Neighbors tried to help but in this day and age no one seems to trust any one so it was more or less a family affair. They rushed back and forth furiously. The fire kicked smoke into the eyes of the fire-fighters, among whom were members of the old neighborhood defense corps in their drab air defense paraphernalia which they had not yet discarded.

The icy December blast whipped the maddening flames. Buckets of water tossed into the fire only increased its anger. Water mains in the district for some mysterious reason were out of order. So they hitched their fire hose to hydrants which drew water by the generation motivated by the engines of their fire trucks. But that too failed because the charcoal run engines lacked "umph." They would chug, putt-putt, spit and hiss, chug and putt-putt again and then peter out.

Among this commotion one person stood out for his calm composure and level-headedness under fire. He was a tall, youthful-looking, clean-cut American soldier. He was in the thick of things, directing, lending a helping hand. Occasionally he would yell out "Hey, Joe, over here." No one appeared to understand him so he had to put his instructions into operation himself. Then the others would follow.

After following his movements for sometime, I cornered him and asked some questions. He looked at me, bewildered at first, then with a smile said, "Hello, Joe." He said he was a member of the Eighth Cavalry Regiment at Tateyama. He was riding in his jeep when he passed by.

"I thought maybe I could be of some help," the GI said. Then he shouted some advice to a couple of firemen. I asked him for his name. He smiled again and said, "Let's make it anonymous, eh, Joe? You see under the circumstances anyone would have done the same thing. I'm not doing anything for myself. I wanted to help these poor people out. It's going to be a cold winter for them as it is. And this damn fire ain't gonna help matters."

He looked at the fire, saw some fire-fighters struggling with a hose in the dark alley. "Well, I've work to do. Excuse me, Joe," he said as he waved me aside and got into his jeep. What was he going to do? The GI drove the vehicle into the alley switched off the engine and left the headlights blazing. He then grabbed an axe and went into the fire, hacking away anything which might spread the fire.

After the conflagration was brought under control, the GI dusted himself, lighted a cigarette, quietly slipped into his jeep and drove away.

NOTICE TO DEPOSITORS OF BANQUE FRANCO-JAPONAISE,
Kobe Branch

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that funds will be available at the Kobe Branch of the Industrial Bank of Japan (36, Nishimachi, Kobe-ku, Kobe), on and after the 26th December, 1945, during business hours, to depositors of record having the following accounts:—
(a) Current Accounts
(b) Ordinary Deposits (with interest up to 30th September, 1945)
(c) Fixed Deposits (with interest up to 30th September, 1945)

Depositors are requested to present their cheque books, pass-books or certificates of deposits as well as their seals.

BANK OF JAPAN,
LIQUIDATOR FOR THE BANQUE FRANCO-JAPONAISE
Kobe, 15th December, 1945.

NOTICE TO DEPOSITORS OF BANQUE FRANCO-JAPONAISE,
Tokyo Branch

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that funds will be available at the Head Office of the Industrial Bank of Japan (8, Ichome, Marunouchi, Kojimachi-ku, Tokyo), on and after the 26th December, 1945, during business hours, to depositors of record having the following accounts:—
(a) Current Accounts
(b) Ordinary Deposits (with interest up to 30th September, 1945)
(c) Fixed Deposits (with interest up to 30th September, 1945)

Depositors are requested to present their cheque books, pass-books or certificates of deposits as well as their seals.

BANK OF JAPAN,
LIQUIDATOR FOR THE BANQUE FRANCO-JAPONAISE
Tokyo, 15th December, 1945.

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APPLY AT:
8th Army Military Government Office
Tokyo Detachment
Tokyo, Marunouchi 2-chome No. 8, American Club.
between 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. or 1 p.m. and 3 p.m.

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Second Sale of Treasure Bonds
Starting December 28

The sale of the second issue of treasure bonds at ¥10 each totalling ¥100,000,000 will start **December 28** at all **Banks, Department Stores, Tobacco Shops, Etc.,** with the following prizes and premiums awarded to lucky lottery draws.

PRIZES
1ST PRIZES OF ¥100,000 each to 100 winners
2ND PRIZES OF ¥ 5,000 each to 400 winners
3RD PRIZES OF ¥ 500 each to 2,000 winners
4TH PRIZES OF ¥ 50 each to 100,000 winners
5TH PRIZES OF ¥ 15 each to 800,000 winners

PREMIUMS
1st prize premiums of 2 "tan" (approximately 33 yds.) of pure cotton calico each to 200 winners
2nd prize premiums of 1 "tan" (approximately 16½ yds.) of pure cotton calico each to 500 winners
3rd prize premius of ½ "tan" (approximately 8 yds.) of pure cotton calico each to 2,000 winners
4th prize premiums of 2 yds. of pure cotton calico each to 100,000 winners

Lotteries for prizes and premiums to be drawn separately.

Winning of both prizes and premiums recognized.

Consolation prize for three blank drawings: 10 cigarettes

DATE OF DRAWING: JANUARY 18
DATE OF PAYMENT: JANUARY 23

NOTICE TO DEPOSITORS of BANQUE DE L'INDO-CHINE,
TOKYO BRANCH

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that funds will be available on and after the 26th December, 1945, during business hours at the Tokyo Branch Office of the Yokohama Specie Bank, Limited, to all private depositors of record.

Tokyo, 15th December, 1945.

HELP WANTED
(For Work in the Yokohama Area)

THE UNITED STATES ARMY IS IN IMMEDIATE NEED OF THE FOLLOWING SERVICES

IT IS NECESSARY THAT OFFICE EMPLOYEES SPEAK ENGLISH

STENOGRAPHERS AND TYPISTS

X-Ray Equipment Repairman, Machinists, English Speaking Telephone Operators, Dental Technicians, Electrical Engineers, Secretaries, Accountant—CPA preferred, Bookkeepers, Office Clerks, Calculator Operators.

CARPENTERS WANTED—REPORT 7:30 a.m. to KANAGAWA PREFECTURE BLDG.

APPLY: MILITARY GOVERNMENT, LABOR DIVISION, 2nd FLOOR, N.Y.K. BUILDING, YOKOHAMA

X'mas is now at hand!!
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(Near Namba Station)

Government Attitude On Election Watched

How Long Present Cabinet Can Hold Out Is Big Political Enigma

Just how long the Shidehara Cabinet will be able to carry on remains a big political enigma and political circles are keenly interested to find out what line of action the cabinet is going to take after the forthcoming general elections, according to well-informed observers.

In the course of the last Diet session, they recalled, Premier Kijuro Shidehara persistently refused to clarify the cabinet's stand on the outcome of the general elections, remaining all along non-committal as to whether the Cabinet will resign to make way for a majority party that will come out of the elections.

While all political parties firmly maintain that the Shidehara Cabinet should resign in favor of a political party that will emerge victorious from the coming elections, the Cabinet itself holds a different view on this issue, arguing that it does not necessarily have to resign after the elections.

These observers declared that the present Cabinet sticks to its stand mainly on the grounds that one of its primary missions—the projected revision of the Constitution—has not yet been accomplished, and, therefore, it should carry on until at least this mission has been fulfilled.

In addition, these observers said, the Cabinet is known to be firmly determined to accomplish its other missions, including the projected reform of the House of Peers system, of the civil service and also of the administrative setup.

Many of the present cabinet ministers, according to these observers, maintain that the Cabinet is by no means a mere "stop-gap" government or one tasked primarily with the mission of holding the general elections to pave way for democratic government.

In view of the known dissatisfaction on the part of the Allied occupation authorities with the slow pace of the current political developments, these observers further said, Cabinet Ministers are very anxious to accomplish many outstanding problems by their own hands, even if it might involve some deviation from the orthodox practices of parliamentary politics.

At the same time, these observers pointed out, such a stand taken by the Government has a fatal weakness in that it has no plausible grounds on which to insist on retention of its power against a majority party that is expected to come into being as a result of the forthcoming general elections.

In the even of a new majority party coming out with a demand for political powers on the basis of the election outcome, the same observers declared, the Shidehara cabinet could not possibly offer any definite reason for refusing the demand.

If, therefore, the present Cabinet intends to remain in power even after the general elections, they said, the only course open to the Government would be to try to form a coalition government with a majority or some other major political parties.

This would naturally involve the necessity of effecting some drastic reorganization of the Cabinet, the observers predicted, adding that such a Cabinet reorganization would be necessary, even if any of the parties failed to obtain a clear majority over others.

Under the present circumstances, it is believed inevitable that either the Cabinet or the political parties or both would have to undergo some drastic reorganization after the general elections, quite apart from the question of whether the Cabinet can survive the post-election developments or the majority party succeeds in coming into power to replace the present Government.

New Labor Ministry Plan Dropped by Government Because Time Not Ripe

The Government has decided to drop the plan of establishing a new labor ministry, deciding that the time was not yet ripe for its establishment and that all administrative matters concerning labor should be handled by the Home Ministry in close contact with the police force, Yomiuri-Hochi revealed Monday. Other changes in the government which were decided upon at a meeting of Vice-Ministers on Saturday included, the abolition of the Welfare Ministry, raising of the status of the Board of Communications to a ministry, abolition of the Board of Information and the creation of a new water power control ministry, the Yomiuri added.

To Boost Allowance As Interim Measure

Extra Sums To Cover Commodity, Family Expenses Being Allowed by Govt.

The Government, last week, decided on the institution of a temporary "commodity price" allowance and increased family allowance to Government employes, business firms employes and other workers, it was learned in an announcement released by the Board of Information.

According to the announcement, the Government Offices and firms in general may pay commodity price allowances to their employes within the limit of ¥100 per month with favorable rates to low salaried persons.

As regards manual laborers, the announcement said, steps may be taken to increase their income within the limit of ¥100 by the institution of commodity price allowance raise in basic salaries and by other means.

With regard to family allowances, the announcement continued that steps will be taken for increasing the allowance by ¥20 for each member of the family.

Stressing the above stops are temporary and tentative, the announcement disclosed that the Government will carry out a basic revision of the Government Official Salaries and Allowances System in the near future.

RADIO PROGRAM

Tuesday, December 25

ARMED FORCES RADIO NETWORK
Tokyo Key Station WVTR

0630—RISE AND SHINE; 0720—MORNING MEDITATIONS; 0730—NEWS; 0745—Lynn Murray; 0800—Jill's Juke Box; 0830—Music We Love; 0900—ORGAN MELODIES; 0915—PIN-UP VOICE; 0930—Harry James; 1000—TODAY'S NOTEBOOK; 1030—SHOWCASE; 1100—STORY OF THE NATIVITY; 1130—Fred Waring; 1200—RELAX AND LISTEN; 1215—Downbeat; 1230—NEWS; 1245—Remember; 1300—CHRISTMAS ALBUM; 1315—Jack Kirkwood; 1330—Yank Bandstand; 1345—ODDITORIUM; 1400—TOKYO MOSE; 1500—Music From America; 1530—THE SOPHISTICATS; 1545—Magic Carpet; 1600—EVENING DEVOTIONS; 1630—DINNER MUSIC; 1730—John Charles Thomas; 1800—NEWS; 1815—BI-LINES; 1830—Bob Hope; 1900—Great Moments In Music; 1930—Globe Theatre; 2000—CHRISTMAS COMMAND PERFORMANCE; 2200—NEWS; 2215—MAKE BELIEVE BALLROOM; 2300—SIGN OFF.

(Shows in CAPS produced in the Tokyo studios.)

RADIO TOKYO, JOAK
National (870 Kcs.)

0600—News; 0615—Farmers' Hour; 0619—Weather; 0630—English Exercise; 0700—News; Weather; 0730—Listeners' Opinions; 0800—Music; 0850—Weather; 0900—Choir; 1000—Children's Hour; 1100-1130—Music; 1200—News; Weather; 1215—Pipe ogan; 1230—Music; 1245—Listeners' Opinions; 1300—"Memories of Christmas," Christmas Carols; 1330—Old songs; 1530—Farmers' Afternoon; 1700—News; 1730—Children's Hour; 1800—Music; 1830—English conversation; 1845—Weather; 1900—Current topics; 1930—Christmas program; 2130—News; Music.

Government to Buy Petroleum and Oil

Purchase to Be Made From Allied Military Stocks for Three Months

In the coming three-month cold season, the Japanese Government will be able to have opportunity of purchasing a total of 41,588 kiloliters of petroleum, including 36,576 kiloliters of diesel fuel oil and 5,012 kiloliters of kerosene from the Allied occupation forces.

According to a SCAP directive issued on December 21, arrangements have been made for the sale from military stocks to the Japanese Government through the Petroleum Distribution Control Company of diesel fuel oil as well as kerosene in January, February and March next year.

Details of monthly quantities and at points where the sale will be conducted are shown in the following table: (in kiloliters)

Diesel Fuel Oil

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Total
Yokosuka-Yokohama	3,023	3,023	4,089	10,135
Nagoya	389	389	510	1,288
Wakayama-Shimotsu	1,511	1,511	2,005	5,027
Kure	525	525	1,002	2,052
Saseho-Nagasaki	5,680	5,680	6,714	18,074
Total	11,128	11,128	14,320	36,576

Kerosene

	Feb.	Mar.	Total
Yokosuka-Yokohama	207	652	859
Nagoya	...	...	...
Wakayama-Shimotsu	...	...	...
Kure	955	1,338	2,293
Saseho-Nagasaki	825	1,035	1,860
Total	1,987	3,025	5,012

It is also directed that the total quantities of these fuels available to the Government from all sources during January, February and March will be allocated approximately in the following percentages with the percentage for the fishing industry not to be reduced (percentage):

	Kerosene		—Diesel Oil—		
	Feb.	Mar.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.
Transportation	5.8	5.8	45	45	41
Fishing	70.0	76.5	45	45	48
Govt. Railway	1.5	1.5	0.7	0.6	0.6
Other Govt. Reg.	0.6	0.6	0.15	0.15	0.14
Mining, Manufacturing	8.6	8.6	7.4	6.8	7.8
Heating, Etc.	...	...	1.75	2.45	2.46
Agriculture	11.5	5.7	...	...	...
(Reserve)	2.0	1.3	...	...	...
	100.0	100.0	100.00	100.00	100.00

It is further directed that the Japanese Government must submit to GHQ a diesel fuel oil report and a gas oil report which will include kerosene under this allocation for the previous calendar month on or before the 20th of each month, describing five items; namely, total stocks as of the last day of the month, receipts from production, deliveries accepted against releases herein announced, receipts from other sources, and deliveries to consumers against allocation prescribed above.

Ashio Strike Settled

The labor dispute at one of the biggest Japanese coppermines at Ashio, was brought to an amicable settlement in favor of the miners.

The Ashio Copper Mining company accepted the demand for 50 per cent increase in wages as well as increase in the amount of various allowances made by the labor union including the raising of the minimum wages for adult miners from ¥7 to ¥15, family allowances to be ¥95 for each family member, and nine other items.

DRUGS FOR CIVILIANS' USE

Government Ordered to Distribute Military Medical Supplies

Stimulating the distribution of medical supplies for consumers, SCAP on December 20 directed the Japanese Government to take vigorous action in order to alleviate the shortage of drugs for the civilian population.

GHQ claimed that it has been noted from reports received in this headquarters from the armies and from observation that large quantities of military medical supplies still remain available for distribution through civilian channels. It is also known that doctors and hospitals are short of necessary drugs and equipment for proper treatment of the civilian population. This condition must be alleviated by prompt utilization of the existing military stocks.

In these circumstances, the Government must take steps at once to stimulate the distribution of medical supplies transferred to the Home Ministry and to determine that they reach the consumer. Accordingly, prompt measures must be taken to assure that prefectural officials take vigorous action upon advice that supplies are available at a depot or collection point.

It is also directed that the prefectural agencies are furnished sufficient transport, labor and warehouse space, and that a minimum of delay is caused by necessary paper work while distributing agencies move the supplies to doctors, hospitals and other dispensers expeditiously for the relief of civilian ill.

Literary Society Formed

Famous novelists and prominent figures in the field of Japanese literature have formed a New Japan Literary Society to create and develop a democratic literature in Japan. Some of the organizers of the new society include such members as Ujaku Akita, Naoya Shiga and Kazuro Hirotsu. It is understood the new society will issue a monthly magazine as well as hold lectures on ancient Japanese culture for the purpose of grasping the true backgrounds of democratic Japan.

More Repatriates Return

The United States Navy vessel, Masonia, made port at Uraga harbor Saturday morning, with the second batch of Japanese repatriates from the United States, numbering 1,280, on board.

Obituary

Koshun Shimizu, 61, chief priest of Todaiji Temple, Nara, passed away on December 22 and funeral services were held Monday.

ALLIES WILL SEND HOME SOUTH SEAS ISLANDERS

Allied military authorities are now contemplating arrangements for the return of natives of the Marianas, Marshall and Caroline Islands, now staying in Japan, to their home lands, according to a SCAP directive on December 21.

It is stated that such arrangements for the time being are restricted exclusively to the Mariana, Marshall and Caroline natives and will not authorize entrance into these mandates of any foreign nationals, including Japanese, Okinawans and Koreans.

Accordingly, the Japanese Government must submit to the Allied Supreme Headquarters by December 28 a list, showing the number by prefecture of total number of natives of the Marianas, Marshalls and Carolines, now residents of Japan who are desirious to repatriate, indicating the number to be returned to each island in these mandates.

Repatriating Koreans

Instructions have been issued by SCAP to the Commanding General of the U.S. 6th Army to permit the repatriation of 10,000 Koreans in the Maizuru area, awaiting repatriation.

Accordingly, the Japanese Government will include the 10,000 Koreans, now at Maizuru, in its plans for repatriation of Koreans to Korea throught ports in Kyushu, according to an Allied directive on December 14. It is emphasized that only those who express a desire to return to their mother country will be repatriated.

Tax Relief Granted

The issuance by the Japanese Government proposed ordinance, providing that certain tax relief may be granted to tax payers who suffered serious damage from the storms on September 17-19 and October 9-11, was approved by GHQ, according to an Allied directive issued on December 21.

Nakagawa Relieved of Post

Shogo Nakagawa, chief of the Police Affairs Section of the Imperial Palace Police Department has been relieved of his post, it was announced on Thursday. Feeling responsible for the agitation which rose in his section, he had previously tendered his resignation, it it is further revealed. Meanwhile, those who took leadership in the agitation will be punished for having neglected their duties.

RELIGION DECREE DRAFTED

In Lieu of Religious Bodies Law To Be Abolished

The Education Ministry has drafted an Imperial decree to accord necessary protection to religious bodies in view of the freedom of religion.

The decree it is said will be promulgated shortly in lieu of the Religious Bodies Law, which will be abolished in accordance with the SCAP directive regarding religious freedom.

Unlike the old law, which dealt with all religious organizations, the new Imperial decree will concern itself only with religious bodies which register with the authorities as judicial persons.

It is designed to remove all government controls over religious organizations in the interest of freedom of religion. Provisions in the old law requiring religious organizations to seek permission of the Education Minister and other Government authorities on their establishment, amalgamation or dissolution will be completely abolished. Under the new decree, the religious organizations are free to establish, amalgamate or dissolve themselves, but they are required to register as juridical persons if they wish to receive protection provided for in the decree including exemption from taxes.

The new decree, however, invests the law courts to dissolve unwholesome religious bodies which may become rampant under new conditions.

Food For Repatriates

SCAP on December 14 directed the Japanese Government that United States repatriation vessels leaving designated ports in the Japanese home islands and which will return to Japan with repatriates will be provided by the reception centers with sufficient stocks of food, medical supplies, blankets and other items required for repatriates on the return voyage.

Classified Ads.

Classified advertisements will only be accepted if paid for in advance. Rates: ½ inch high, per column, per insertion: ¥15.00 (about 20 words). 1 inch high, per column, per insertion: ¥30.00 (about 40 words).

Help Wanted

WANTED proof readers, Nippon Times Any nationality. Apply in person to the editorial department, Nippon Times, Tokyo.

For Sale

AMERICAN-made electric stove, with 4 burners, and oven. Beds with springs, one double and two singles. Apply Box 114, Nippon Times, Tokyo.

CINE-KODAK Kodachrome, Four films. For immediate sale. Apply Box 99, Nippon Times, Tokyo.

OSHUMINK, large tanned skins ¥4,000 to ¥5,000, per lot for one lady's coat. Apply Box 91, Nippon Times, Tokyo.

PROJECTOR (Film) 16/mm. Bell and Howel make, used but in perfect condition and portable screen. Apply Box 89, Nippon Times, Tokyo.

PORTABLE typewriter, German make, used but in perfect condition for immediate sale. Apply Box 122, Nippon Times, Tokyo.

PORTABLE typewriter, Swiss made, in excellent condition. Apply Box 100, Nippon Times, Tokyo.

TIENTSIN carpet, pure wool, 11'x9', used but nearly new. Apply Box 90, Nippon Times, Tokyo.

SWISS and Japanese wrist watches. English and Japanese portable and standard typewriters, singer sewing machine, kimono, silk and woolen cloth, silk handkerchiefs, table cloth, pearl necklaces, diamonds, and other jewellery, camera, rings, chinese carpet 12x9ft and 8x4 feet, etc. Apply V. B. Sheth, Ginza 4 chome, Kyobunkan Building, 6th floor, Tokyo.

Wanted to Buy

GRAMOPHONES, records, radio-gramophones, accordions, pianos, organs, electric shavers, sewing machines, typewriters, refrigerators, etc. Office hours: 2:00 to 4:30 p.m. Rhythm-Sha, 2 Jimbocho Nichome, Kanda, Tokyo.

TYPEWRITERS, singer sewing machines, cameras, gold, diamond and pearl rings and jewellery, cultured pearl necklaces, wrist watches, silk and woolen cloth, iron steel safe, electric refrigerators etc. Apply V.B. Sheth, Ginza 4 Chome, Kyobunkwan Bldg. 6th Floor Tokyo.

WANTED large number of cameras, any kind but in perfect condition. High price will be paid. Apply Seibi-Do Photo Service. Minami Sakuma-cho, Shiba-ku, Tokyo.

Instruction

JAPANESE woman residing in Yokosuka wishes to teach Japanese to U.S. officer or his family at pupil's home. Apply Box 223, Nippon Times, Tokyo.

General

C. ZIRN, M. D., has resumed his practice in Kobe, in his temporary consultation rooms at the "Sainte Marie's School". Consultation hours: 10 to 12 a.m. Private residence: 7/30 Yamamotodori, 3-chome, Kobe.

WANTED representation of American exporters who are able to export American goods in the present changed condition of Japan. Apply V. B. Sheth, Ginza 4-chome, Kyobunkan Bldg., 6th floor, Tokyo.

TYPEWRITING-WORK accepted, by accurate and efficient typist, at moderate rate. Apply Box 120, Nippon Times, Tokyo.

ALEX Yamamura is anxious to meet George Yamashita, Eddie Ikeda and other friends. Please contact through Nippon Times. Apply Box 107, Nippon Times, Tokyo.

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Publisher and Printer:
JINTARO WAKAMATSU

TOKYO, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1945

'Peace On Earth'

"Peace on earth; good will toward men."

For how many years has this promise been a bitter mockery; how many times has the birthday of the Prince of Peace been made a travesty by a world torn asunder by hate and carnage! Too long has the carol of glad tidings been drowned out by the roar of guns, the chorus of lies, the shrieks of the mangled, and the sobs of the disconsolate.

But today, at last, Christmas comes to a world which has regained in some measure the peace and good will which this holiday symbolizes. This year, at last, mankind can greet this day with some measure of the peace of the spirit and the good will of the heart which the occasion demands. And for this surcease of the strife of the past several years and for the promise of a new era of hope, all the world joins in heartfelt thankfulness and rejoicing.

Even supposedly heathen Japan joins in this universal celebration today, for the ideal which Christmas represents is not a monopoly of any race or creed. Men of all faith can understand and appreciate and revere the ideal of the brotherhood of man and, by the very nature of things, all must unite in its observance if it is to be a reality. However great their sins of the past, however severe the penance required for their redemption, all must learn to share in the promise of the blessings which the spirit of Christmas offers.

There are, to be sure, many to whom this Christmas will still seem to be far from satisfactory. Thousands of men, still stranded from their hearth and kin, are spending this day in bleak and lonesome exile in a strange land. Millions, though in their own land, are spending this day, as all their recent days, in homeless and hungry misery amidst the wreckage of the only world they knew. In a few places the guns are still blazing as countrymen confront countrymen in fratricidal strife or as men of one race seek to drive out another race in unrelenting fury. But compared with the terror and horror which raged rampant in the past several years, Christmas this year is infinitely closer to the ideal of peace and good will, and for this change there can be nothing but joy.

The comparative return of peace and good will this year, however, must not cause the world to overlook the work which still remains to be done. Although the guns have been stilled in most parts of the world, the peace which has come is still an uneasy peace, and the good will is not as deep as it might be. In the international field, a structure which will assure lasting peace still remains to be perfected. Injustice, inequality, fear, and oppression have not yet been banished beyond recall and sufficient safeguards against their return have not yet been established. Selfishness, suspiciousness, and ignorance which may upset the hard won peace still linger.

In the domestic field, the rich and powerful still all too easily tend to control and exploit the weak and poor. The weak and poor, understandably enough but unfortunately, harbor dangerous hatreds and temptations to extreme action which prejudice their own cause. Sordid greed and callous indifference toward others still rule too many hearts. A political organization awaits to be set up which will assure to all an equal right of representation, an equal protection of the laws, and a full respect for fundamental human liberties. A social and economic order awaits to be organized which will assure to all an equal opportunity to attain a decent livelihood and which will provide to all a reasonable measure of security. As long as men withhold these things from other men, there can be no permanent peace or good will.

"Peace on earth; good will toward men." As the world greets this Christmas tidings under more auspicious circumstances than in many a year, it must strive to ensure that this promise will ever become more and more a reality in the hearts of men than merely an ideal in the songs of angels.

PRESS COMMENTS

Monday, December 24

A CHINESE CONCEPTION OF JAPAN

Yomiuri-Hochi—The article contributed to Foreign Affairs by Hu Lin, president of the Ta Kung Pao, on Sino-Japanese relations is worth serious attention of the Japanese. While expressing hope for the restoration of Sino-Japanese amity, he mentioned the complete elimination of the militaristic character of Japan and a thorough revision of the State conception of the Japanese. On the second point, he demanded demolition of the political and legal structure centering round the Emperor, suggesting the abolition of Emperor-rule as a principle.

This is the opinion of Hu Lin, who has been known for his pro-Japanese attitude as a protege of General Chiang Kai-shek. On the same question, Lin Yu-tang, whose general attitude has been antithetical to Hu Lin's, recently emphasized that the theory deifying the Emperor must be renounced once and for all. He held the Emperor responsible for the war.

In Japan, only the Communists are demanding the abolition of the present system, but seeing that Hu Lin and Lin Yu-tang, both strong opponents of Communism, agree in suggesting the abolition of Emperor-rule, their attitude may be taken as representing the dominant opinion of China. Furthermore, the Bar Association of the Philippines has sent a telegram to President Truman asking him to bring the Emperor to a trial as a war criminal.

The Japanese have had their freedom of opinion and conscience restored, but this should never be isolationist and insular in character. They must seriously reflect on what other peoples think about them if they are to live in peace and harmony with the world. The problem of Emperor-government must be considered not only from an internal but from an external point of view.

Sunday, December 23

CURRENCY OVER 50 BILLION YEN

MAINICHI—The note issue of the Bank of Japan has reached over 50 billion Yen. The volume has more than doubled since August 15, and the present amount is more than forty times the figure before the Manchurian Affair. After World War I, German currency rose to forty times the pre-war amount in the early part of 1922, when the worst symptoms of inflation began to appear, and with the French occupation of the Ruhr in January of the following year, the mark lost all value as a monetary unit. The reparation debt of Japan will be fixed next year, and nobody can say that the new burden may not prove the Ruhr of Japan.

The increased note issue of the Central Bank is ascribed to increased withdrawals of banking deposits to be invested in goods or real values. The ready purchasing power in the hands of the people, now estimated to reach 100,000,000,000 Yen, remained latent during the war for obvious reasons, but the termination of the war changed the situation, and with this, the value of currency began to decline. The announcement of new taxation, especially estate duties, has quickened the movement from money to real values. The Government is looking on, with folded arms, while this movement is gathering momentum. Once the "flight from the Yen" is started, the progress of currency depreciation will be extremely rapid.

The cause and effect act and react upon each other and produce what is called a vicious circle. In that event, there is no stopping the process. A vicious circle always arises when inflation has reached a certain stage. Then the inflation follows its own course with irresistible force like an avalanche. The circulation of currency becomes rapid as inflation proceeds for people are then anxious to get rid of paper notes. Increased velocity in circulation is equivalent to increased note issue. Government finance becomes chaotic when a vicious circle is started. Expenditure rises far more quickly than revenues, and Treasury deficits mount, swelling the note issue and aggravating the vicious circle.

Japanese currency has nearly reached the position of the mark before the French occupation of the Ruhr. The present currency situation is extremely grave but the Government is taking no effective steps to check the inflationary process, though the new burden of war reparations is coming. Unless a series of effective measures is taken without delay, the currency situation will become irretrievable.

CHIANG MUST CARRY OUT RADICAL REFORM IF HE HOPES TO SUCCEED

If Generalissimo Fails, American Policy Will Fail And It Will Then Be Russia's Turn

By LOUIS FISCHER

Official American denials and excuses notwithstanding, the United States is intervening actively on behalf of the Chinese central government. The United States Navy and Air Force have transported Chiang Kai-shek's troops into and up to the combat area. Many of these units are excellently equipped with modern American military weapons. Many of them were trained by American army officers under a wartime arrangement with the generalissimo.

According to the Russo-Chinese treaty signed this summer, the Soviet army must evacuate Manchuria by the first week of December. (This article was written on Nov. 23). There is no reason to doubt that Moscow will keep her promise. Officially, the United States is merely helping Chiang, at his request, to take over when the Russians get out.

But the Russians are not ignorant of the economic and strategic importance of Manchuria. Manchuria is larger than Germany and has a population, according to the 1940 Japanese census, of forty-four million. The Japanese built up its industries and developed its communications. It is far and away the most desirable part of China.

The Soviet Union recently acquired special treaty rights on the two most important Manchurian railroads and in the two most important Manchurian ports. On November 16, 1945, the Kremlin offered Soviet citizenship to the hundred thousand or more Russians who fled to Manchuria and settled there in the early years of turmoil that followed the Bolshevik revolution of 1917. Those who accept this offer will become nuclei of Soviet influence. Now the Chinese Communists are endeavoring to bar Chiang Kai-shek's soldiers from occupying Manchuria.

Approves Soviet Pact

Chinese Communist leaders publicly and vociferously approved of the Soviet pact with the Nazis in August, 1939. More strangely, they publicly and vigorously welcomed the Soviet-Japanese neutrality treaty of April, 1941, which gave Japan freedom of action against Malaya, Siam, and the Dutch East Indies, and by whose terms the Soviets recognized Japanese domination of Manchuria.

Whether the Chinese Communists are Marxists or true socialists is an abstract argument. Stalin's acts in Eastern and Central Europe prove that at present his primary purpose is to introduce Communists rather than Communism.

A unified China today would be a China under American influence from which Russian influence was excluded. Russia would not like that. The Soviet government, naturally does not relish the thought of American power on its long Asiatic frontier as well as across the sea in Japan. Russia therefore does not now want a unified China. The Chinese Communists seek to prevent Chiang Kai-shek from uniting China under his rule.

Early in November, five hundred junks, filled with Chinese Communist troops sailed from Communist-held areas in Shantung to southern Manchuria to occupy territory from which the Russians were withdrawing before Chiang's army could arrive. The Chinese Communists have also already entrenched themselves in Harbin, Tsitsihar and other towns in Eastern Manchuria. They were encouraged to do so by the action of the Russians. Moreover, Chinese Communists have gone into Russian-held districts of Manchuria and come back into China proper laden with newly-acquired arms.

China threatens to become a second Spain with the United States "non-intervening" on the side of Chiang Kai-shek and Russia "non-intervening" on the side of the Chinese Communists.

Rivalry Is Inevitable

In view of the present anarchy of international affairs, and in view of the fact that each of the Big Three is trying to hold or extend its empire or sphere of influence, rivalry between America and Russia over China is inevitable. Indeed, given the existing world tensions, it would be unnatural for the United States and the Soviet Union not to attempt to draw so big and vital a country as China into its orbit.

There is no solution of this China problem or of the other grave problems which trouble the relations between America, England, and Russia unless all three of them renounce their expansionism and imperialism. The end of empires would pave the way to a world federal government. Then, and then only, will the world have peace. Then, and then only, will the atomic bomb, or worse instruments of death and destruction, cease to terrorize humanity. To discuss the disposition of the bomb before international rivalries are liquidated is to put the cart before the horse. If there are political differences nations will prepare for military emergencies, and they will not make a present of their dearest military treasures to their competitors.

The international situation is likewise reflected in China's internal social and economic development. The Chinese Communists have initiated a land reform in the regions they control, and China, in common with other Asiatic countries, urgently need a drastic land reform. But to judge by Soviet Russian experience—which I observed at close range for fourteen years—a basic change in agrarian organization requires farm machinery, electricity, transportation facilities, and other city products. A real land reform, accordingly, must be accompanied by rapid industrialization.

The Bolsheviks industrialized rapidly with their own resources and with comparatively little outside help. But they did not begin their large-scale industrialization until 1928, that is, after seven years of peaceful preparation and accumulation of assets. Moreover, Russia was much more advanced industrially in 1928 than China is today. It is doubtful, therefore, whether Chinese industrialization will get very far without heavy foreign assistance. Devastated Russia, which must rebuild, is incapable of rendering that assistance. Neither is England. Only America can do. America seems ready to do it. Several American economic missions have gone out to China.

Such industrialization, however, cannot succeed without a land reform. A land reform provides a new labor supply for the city. It provides more food for the growing class in the expanded industrial centers. Just as the land reform is facilitated by industrialization so industrialization is aided by a land reform, and in Soviet Russia, at heavy cost, they proceeded simultaneously.

Now Chiang Kai-shek can have American support for industrialization. But is he ready to make a land reform?

The Chinese Communists could give China a land reform. But would America help them industrialize?

If Chiang Kai-shek refuses to carry out a radical land reform he must ultimately fail no matter how great his military achievements. Then American policy in China will fail. After that it will be Russia's turn.

'Deliberate Policy'

St. Louis Post-Dispatch

The current trial of twenty key German figures at Nuremberg is designed primarily for the doing of justice in history's most atrocious crime, but there is another purpose that the Allied world cannot afford to overlook or neglect. That other purpose is to impress upon the German people, as a highly important part of the re-education process, the facts about how they were deceived by their leaders, how those leaders plotted the war (which they said had been forced upon the Reich), how the savagery which shocked the world was a deliberate war policy.

READERS IN COUNCIL

One for Ripley

To the Editor:

In the United States when a passenger is hurt or killed in a public conveyance, he or his next of kin sue the company and collect. In Japan, this is what happens, as reported in the December 22 issue of the Yomiuri-Hochi:

Mrs. Yuki Watanabe, 26, boarded an electric train at Shimbashi between 1:30 and 2 p.m. on December 19. She was carrying her one-year-old son Jiro. The car was crowded to the point of suffocation. When Mrs. Watanabe alighted from the train at Meguro her son was unconscious, and efforts to revive him were unsuccessful. Mrs. Watanabe reported to the police, the police turned the matter over to the Tokyo Public Procurator's Office, and this office, according to the Yomiuri-Hochi, intends to charge Mrs. Watanabe with manslaughter and to fine her ¥1,000.

S.

Merry Martians

Philadelphia Record

Sometimes science gets a little too logical.

Gabriel A. Tikhoff, of Tikhoff Observatory, Leningrad, knows that evergreen trees reflect the infra-red rays of the sun less readily than trees that shed their leaves every year.

He also knows that there is an absence of great brilliance in infrared photographs of the planet Mars.

Therefore, he reasons, the vegetation of Mars may consist of evergreens.

We go a step further.

If there are evergreens on Mars, they must be used for Christmas trees. Since there are Christmas trees, the Martians must celebrate Christmas. Since they celebrate Christmas, they must believe in Santa Claus. Since they believe in Santa Claus.

Oh, well! Merry Christmas to everybody on Mars!

Gen. MacArthur's Task

By CEDRIC FOSTER

I do not believe that Gen. MacArthur expects to change Japan overnight into a nation adhering to the tenets and the fundamentals of our Western republic. But he is certainly under no illusions concerning Japan's form of government. He is determined to give to the Japanese the opportunity to open their own minds, and he is adopting various methods to accomplish this end.

He knows full well that Japan is equipped with a feudalistic system which has no counterpart in the world today, and few, if any, in world history. As he follows the course which he has mapped out, he is imbued with the determination to do everything possible to prevent the foundation being laid for a future war.

One of the things that MacArthur hopes to accomplish by opening the minds of the Japanese, which heretofore have been kept under lock and key by Imperial Rescript, is the shattering of Japanese belief in the divinity of the Emperor. There will be no attempt to force the Japanese to change their beliefs in the usual definition of the word, but I am convinced that MacArthur is going to accord the Japanese every opportunity of expression of opinion and the chance to make this transition.

SHIBUSAWA'S FINANCIAL POLICY IS CALLED UNSOUND, DANGEROUS

Continuance of Pro-Capitalist Stand May Give Rise Soon to Uncontrollable Chaos

By KIHACHIRO KIMURA

II

On the contrary, when inflation gets beyond a certain point, it is insurmountable unless restrictions on private ownership are intensified quantitatively as well as qualitatively. In other words, the prevention of catastrophic inflation inexorably demands measures against private ownership so radical as are unenforceable within the scope of a capitalistic order. Only under a democratic, socialistic structure will such measures be possible. Hence the problem of inflation resolves itself into a political issue. That is, to say, there must be a body politic capable of high-degree controls over private ownership.

Whether catastrophic aggravation of our postwar inflation can be averted under a capitalistic order or whether it is unavoidable except under a socialistic set-up is a question pressing for speedy decision.

In a statement issued at a press conference on November 16, Finance Minister Shibusawa made it clear that he thinks it possible, and is desirous to overcome the prevailing inflation within the periphery of a capitalistic order. His view may be taken as indicating the sentiment and character of the present Government.

Touching on the questions of the Government's obligation to indemnify the munitions industries and wartime profits, the Finance Minister says:

"Views have been expressed that the Government should repudiate the promise of indemnification, but I doubt if the foundation for financial reconstruction could be laid and inflation overcome by the Government breaching its faith. Again, there are cries for the confiscation of wartime profits, but it is pretty difficult to define war profits."

From the standpoint of keeping up the present order of domination by capital, cancellation of the Government indemnification obligations would be a breach of faith, to be sure, but such a breach would be decidedly consistent with an order of democracy under which people must be freed from subjection to capital. Not only that, but the unparalleled gravity of postwar inflation in Japan demands steps far more drastic than the mere repudiation of indemnification obligations to the munitions industries. And it only remains to be said that Finance Minister Shibusawa's lukewarm attitude is proof that he stands aloof from the people.

Puts Burden on People

Finance Minister Shibusawa declares: "Pessimistic views seem to be wide-spread that the problem of inflation is incapable of solution. I think otherwise. The problem of swollen currency circulation, bond issues and deposits mean, after all, that part of the people have a claim on the whole people, namely, on the State. Such being the case, the question centers on the distribution of wealth among the people themselves. Accordingly, the question cannot fall of solution if the whole nation will keep alive their wartime determination to defend the country at the risk of their lives. I trust implicitly that they will."

Well, it was the masses who went out to defend the country at the risk of their lives and at a sacrifice of all they had during the war. What did the capitalist class, in collusion with the military and bureaucrats do behind the backs of the self-sacrificing masses? The people, their eyes opened to the misconducts of the ruling classes during the war, will not be hoodwinked into self-sacrifice in the interests of capital. The people will turn their backs on the Government. Here is a strong indication that the problem of inflation has gone through a qualitative change and defies solution under a capitalistic set-up, no matter how deft the means for solution under a capitalistic set-up, no matter how deft the means may be.

Finance Minister Shibusawa's pro-capital stand is made clearer when he says:

"I do not share the idea that to squeeze the wealthy is all that there is to be done. I know full well that the redistribution of national wealth must be considered, but a more essential and more pressing task is to increase the absolute quantity of goods. Utmost care must be taken not to make a quarrel over redistribution and thereby retard the effort to increase the absolute quantity. Now is not the time for bickering over the distribution of a modicum. What we must do is to strive to produce more in close cooperation with one another."

The Finance Minister is either utterly ignorant of the actualities of the prevailing inflation or he is trying to draw the wool over the eyes of the people. In order to increase the absolute quantity of goods, inflation must be adjusted first of all. For the purpose of stimulating productive activity when the masses are stricken with absolute poverty, a policy of redistribution of the national wealth must be resorted to. Not only that, but the means of production in the basic industries must be socialized if effective production is to be sought. In this sense, too, anti-inflation measures must inevitably be taken outside the scope of a capitalistic order.

Continuance of a pro-capitalist, let-those-survive-who-can policy which postulates the death from starvation of 10,000,000 might give rise to uncontrollable chaos in the not distant future. New Japanese economy built up on a foundation shaky with inflation could be anything but sound. Anti-inflation measures must be undertaken by a government truly representative of the masses. Such is the democratic way of coping with inflation. The longer it takes such a government to emerge and the longer the present undemocratic politics is continued, the greater will be the misfortune to the people.

(End)

TOKYO TODAY

In and About the Town

By IDDITTI

A war-capped Tokyo is a self-contradiction. But such is the case. In a tram or in a train, any place where a certain number of people are found together, one will, if one takes a little trouble, notice that with few exceptions men, old and young alike, are seen wearing the same type of headgear, a khaki cap, which goes by the name of war-cap. The name is due to the fact that in wartime the cap was worn by the soldiers.

Rationed Fashion

Partly because woolen goods were short and partly for purposes of war effort, a national uniform with that particular cap was invented. To wear the uniform was all but compulsory, though not bound by law. Management and men of munitions factories were perhaps the first to wear it. The example was followed by others with feverish rapidity. Even schoolchildren and teachers took to the fashion.

The making of such uniforms was encouraged by the government. As a matter of fact the material was rationed. One could not obtain any other kind of dress. It was a rationed fashion.

Elder people who had some spare or worn-out suits tucked away somewhere in the recess of their wardrobes fished them out and put them on when the war came to an end. But alas! they could not cover their heads with any hat other than the war-cap. Because one does not carry a stock of hats—one hat for one year is generally the rule with most men.

Four years of war have cleared away civilian hats. The case with growing boys is simple. They had no chance to have ordinary school caps made. These circumstances explain the curious sight of men and boys wearing the same type of cap today. The humor of it is that men's hats are now being black-marketed at enormous profits.

Tokyo honestly strives to live down its martial strife of the past few years. Every trace of it it desires to get rid of; it wants to wipe the slate clean. Therefore the war-cap is an irritable sore that pinches its head.

The present state of mind of Tokyo is one of regret, sorrow, repentance. Desparate or despondent it certainly is not though; it is determined to survive, to strive for a new road, to look forward to a future that it devoutly believes will hold something good in store for it. That such a mood is the mood of Tokyo today, and indeed of Japan at large for that matter, is proved by the simple fact that it feels uncomfortable under the weight of the war-cap.

The GI Cap

Younger men feel the cap trouble more keenly. The industrial soldiers, as the munitions factory workers were in wartime called, took pride in dressing themselves like men of the fighting services as nearly as possible. They were in national uniform with war-caps on. When the 15th of August (Japanese date) came they, like everybody else, wanted to get into civilian clothes as quickly as they could. They went to their brothers and asked for business suits; or they begged for some of their elders' trousers out of mothers' petticoats. But they could not discard their war-caps simply because they had no alternatives or substitutes.

Their mental plight at present is such that they would pay any amount of money if only they could obtain any decent civilian hats. Stories are told of how some of them tried to waylay college students and rob them of their caps. Another illustration of the situation is that imitations of the GI cap are put on sale in open market.

OUR CAIRO LETTER

By FRED KRIEG

AP World Newsfeatures Writer

CAIRO—Almost unheard in the mad scramble to remake the map of the world since the defeat of the Axis is the small voice of Ethiopia, first overrun by the armies of Mussolini ten years ago.

This landlocked country, nearly half again the size of Texas and with a population nearly that of New York state, has entered its formal bid for the return of Eritrea and Somaliland "to the Empire," declaring the primary consideration is the "right of access to the sea."

But already Egypt, through its Foreign Minister, Abdel Hamied Badawi Pasha, apparently referring to Egypt's demands for unification of the Nile Valley under exclusive Egyptian control, has voiced the opinion that Eritrea is "essentially a complement to another state."

Want Rectification

Ethiopia bases its claim to the territory bordering the Red Sea to migrations from Asia "in the second and first millenniums before Christ," when, it says, "the result of those migrations was the establishment of the Empire of Ethiopia which for many centuries included the territories now known as Eritrea and the various Somalilands."

Ethiopians deny that their country seeks "reparation against Italy but simply the rectification of a wrong which for 60 years has deprived Ethiopia, on the one hand, of the oldest part of the Empire and, on the other, of access to the sea."

The disputed territory once partially was held by Egypt, but under a tripartite treaty with the British, Egyptian garrisons were replaced by Ethiopians in 1884. Italy first entered the area under a commercial treaty in 1859, and from then on, the Ethiopians claim, followed a period of "gradual Italian encroachments" winding up with the Italian invasion of Ethiopia proper in 1935.

The Ethiopian government, in a formal memorandum to the recent Conference of Foreign Ministers in London, claims the country is "paying for the lack of access to the sea" because her commercial life is under the control of foreign powers.

Eden Was Sympathetic

The memorandum asserts that former British Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden, viewed "with sympathy" her aspirations for access to the sea, and that this assurance was renewed by former Prime Minister Churchill during a meeting in Cairo in February, 1945. It adds that the late President Roosevelt and former Secretary of State Hull "have formulated similar statements of attitude."

The memorandum blames the lack of a route to the sea for Ethiopia's failure to receive arms ordered from abroad "for the prosecution of the war against the Italian invader," and that instead arms had to be shipped by camel caravan from Berbera, Gulf of Aden port, "which the British government generously made available."

Mixed up in this intricate pattern of North-East Africa politics is the question of whether the Ethiopians are capable of administering the territory they so much desire. The Ethiopians emphatically say that they are, and furthermore are "fully prepared to assume all the responsibilities of such administration."